

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-20 AGR-20 EB-11 USIA-15

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R 270717Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3968

UNCLAS CANBERRA 5617

FOR CU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, AS

SUBJ: PROPOSED PARTIAL GRANTS FOR LEADERS RETURNING
FROM WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

REF: (A) STATE 183838

(B) CANBERRA 5535

1. THIS SUPPLEMENTS REF (B).

2. EMBASSY HAS CONSIDERED FURTHER THE MERITS OF PARTICIP-
ATION BY GOA OFFICIALS IN PROPOSED PROGRAM OF U.S.
MEETINGS FOR RETURNING DELEGATES TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE
(REF TELS). WE BELIEVE ADVISABILITY OF MAKING PARTIAL
GRANTS TO GOA PARTICIPANTS LARGELY DEPENDS ON PRIMARY
PURPOSE OF PROGRAM.

3. AS MAJOR WORLD FOOD PRODUCER-EXPORTER, AUSTRALIA IS NOT
TYPICAL OF EAST ASIAN REGION. GOA HAS LONG SUPPORTED AND
PLAYED KEY ROLE IN MULTILATERAL ACTIVITIES RELATED TO
AGRICULTURE. MOREOVER, AUST. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE (FORMERLY
PRIMARY INDUSTRY) MAINTAINS FULL-TIME COUNSELLOR IN
WASHINGTON, AND OTHER GOA DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED ALSO HAVE
WIDE KNOWLEDGE OF U.S. AGRICULTURE SCENE. THEREFORE, IF
U.S. PROGRAM CONCENTRATES ON (A) CONVINCING PARTICIPANTS
OF NEED FOR NATIONAL AND MULTILATERAL EFFORTS TO DEAL
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WITH WORLD FOOD PROBLEMS AND/OR (B) U.S. AND OVERALL

AGRICULTURAL SITUATION, VALUE OF PARTIAL GRANTS TO GOA DELEGATES (WHO WOULD SURELY ALREADY BE PERSUADED OF (A) AND KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT (B)) WOULD BE DUBIOUS. ON OTHER HAND, IF PURPOSE OF PROGRAM IS SPECIFICALLY TO BUILD INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR PARTICULAR U.S. POLICIES AND INITIATIVES RELATED TO WFC, AUST. PARTICIPATION MIGHT PROVE USEFUL EVEN THOUGH GOA DELEGATES WILL BE UNDOUBTEDLY WELL FAMILIAR WITH U.S. ATTITUDES BY TIME CONFERENCE ENDS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: ONCE RESPONSES FROM EA POSTS TO REF (A) HAVE BEEN WEIGHED, PLEASE ADVISE EMBASSY SOONEST OF THRUST OF MEETINGS TO ENABLE US TO GIVE FINAL EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION RE DESIRABILITY OF GOA DELEGATE PARTICIPATION.
HARROP

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NNN

Message Attributes

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